WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Process for testing the thickness of a coating on a container, which comprises: providing a container having a coating thereon; shining ultraviolet light through the container and coating; and determining the thickness of the coating by at least one sensor which determines how much light passes through the container.

2. The process of claim 1, wherein the container is a plastic container having an open mouth, an intermediate sidewall and a base adapted to support the container.

3. The process of claim 2, wherein said at least one sensor is positioned outside of the container and the ultraviolet light passes from the inside of the container to the sensor.

4. The process of claim 3, wherein a rod is inserted inside the container which shines ultraviolet light through the container to said at least one sensor.

5. The process of claim 3, including positioning at least two of said sensors outside of the container along the vertical length of the container.

6. The process of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensor is movable along the vertical length of the container.

7. The process of claim 3, wherein the container is rotated so that said at least one sensor is exposed to the entire circumference of the container.

8. The process of claim 3, wherein the coating is on the internal surface of the container.

9. The process of claim 8, wherein the coating is a carbon coating.

10. The process of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensor is connected to a meter which measures the amount of light passing through the coating.

11. Apparatus for testing the thickness of a coating on a container, which comprises: a container having a coating thereon; means for shining ultraviolet light through the container and coating; and at least one sensor operative to determine how much light passes through the container, thereby determining the thickness of the coating.

12. Apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the container is a plastic container having an open mouth, an intermediate sidewall and a base adapted to support the container.

13. Apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said at least one sensor is positioned outside of the container and wherein the ultraviolet light passes from the inside of the container to the sensor.

14. Apparatus according to claim 13, including a rod inside the container which shines ultraviolet light through the container to said at least one sensor.

15. Apparatus according to claim 13, including at least two of said sensors outside of the container along the vertical length of the container.

16. Apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said at least one sensor is movable along the vertical length of the container.

17. Apparatus according to claim 13, including means to rotate the container so that said at least one sensor is exposed to the entire circumference of the container.

18. Apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said container has a coating on the internal surface of the container.

19. Apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said coating is a carbon coating.

20. Apparatus according to claim 13, including a meter connected to said at least one sensor which measures the amount of light passing through the container.